

March 7, 2013

The Common Council met as the Water Utility Board at 7:00 pm on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Shelton, Hoehn, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Board member Fuelling was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Bldg. Comm. Willis; Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; Comm. Maynard; Supt. Givens; Rich DeMarco – Johnson Controls, Inc.; Sonny and Charley Lawrence; Larry Williams; Brittaney Johnson – Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana; Ed Adams; Jerry Walden; Nancy Sexton; Ann Fischer; Dianna Dean; Charley Parsley – Best Equipment; and Sara Manifold; Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Board member Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Board member Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported he motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker requested action on the claims presented.

Board member Higgins moved the claims presented be allowed for payment. Seconded by Board member Shelton.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported he motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the report of the Water Chairman.

**Water Chairman Curtis** stated he has been out of town but he is sure Supt. Gray and Mr. DeMarco have a report.

Mr. DeMarco presented the following update for the Board:

1. New Electrical Building  
Building, power, control wiring, MCC, Switch Board, etc. 100%  
Primary Pump Power and controls 100%  
Secondary Pump power and controls at 50%
2. Deep Well Status  
100% operational  
100% Cofferdam back fill
3. River Work  
100% operational
4. River Inlet Screen Backwash System  
100% operational
5. New Lamella Building Structure  
Completed

6. Flood Plain Change Order

MCC's power, controls, transformers, VFD's, lighting panels, compressor relocation, etc at 20%

PPMI Demobilization is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Curtis stated he was at the plant today and everything looks very nice, the bank is even back in place – it looks good.

Mr. DeMarco added in October or November, JCI will need to come back down and place some smaller stones on the bank area as there will be some sinking.

Supt. Gray stated the inlet screen backwash system is pretty impressive to watch. He then stated they have stripped and repainted the lamella building, and it was dipped in galvanized against rusting. He then stated they replaced a hydrant at 4<sup>th</sup> and College and the first round of hydrant flushing will begin in April. He concluded his report by stating he has given the Board copies of the water modeling that was done back in 2007.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Board ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any Legals ?

Attorney Higgins replied she has none.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Board ?

There was no response.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Board member Curtis moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Board member Shelton.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported he motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

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John Tucker  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cristi L. Sitzman  
Clerk-Treasurer

The Common Council met immediately following the Water Utility Board on the above date in the Meeting Room at City Hall Annex with Mayor Tucker presiding and members Shelton, Hoehn, Curtis, and Higgins attending. Councilman Fuelling was not present. Others attending were Attorney Higgins; Supt. Gray; Bldg. Comm. Willis; Chief Beloit; Chief Dixon; Comm. Maynard; Supt. Givens; Rich DeMarco – Johnson Controls, Inc.; Sonny and Charley Lawrence; Larry Williams; Brittaney Johnson – Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana; Ed Adams; Jerry Walden; Matthew Woodruff and mother; Nancy Sexton; Ann Fischer; Dianna Dean; Charley Parsley – Best Equipment; and Sara Manifold; Mount Vernon Democrat.

Mayor Tucker called the meeting to order by stating members were either mailed or hand carried copies of the minutes of their previous meeting and by asking if there were any corrections or additions. He added if not, he entertains a motion to waive their reading and to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Curtis moved the reading of the minutes be waived and they be approved as presented. Seconded by Councilwoman Higgins.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Standing Committees.

**Street & Light Chairman Hoehn** stated he has toured the east side location of the Street Department and discussed some things with Comm. Maynard. He stated he would like to do a financial analysis on the trash section of the operation. He added he has talked with Scott Miller of Umbaugh and he has indicated they can do that for a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,000. He stated he would like to get an idea where the city is on this come budget time.

Comm. Maynard replied he is ok with that and added they can look into it.

Councilman Curtis added the trash operation is a big chunk of the city's expenses.

Comm. Maynard agreed and added Charles Parsley is here tonight concerning garbage totes that could also save the city money.

Mayor Tucker stated as Comm. Maynard does not have money for this in his budget, they will need to look at EDIT or COIT to pay for it.

Chairman Hoehn moved they move forward with Umbaugh on the trash study, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$5,000. Seconded by Councilman Curtis.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

Councilman Curtis asked if the study would be done relatively soon ?

Chairman Hoehn replied Umbaugh has worked with the city before, they are familiar already with the finances. He added he would think 60 days, but he will follow up on that.

Attorney Higgins added Umbaugh will send an engagement letter and then they will proceed.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Shelton – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hoehn thanked the Council.

Comm. Maynard stated he was asked a few meetings back to get prices together for streets for a new proposed subdivision being developed by Mr. Lawrence. He added he gave the blueprints to J H Rudolph, as submitted by Mr. Lawrence and for the first 23 lots, the cost would be \$153,960. He stated the project was divided into two phases after that; phase 1 consisting of 67 lots and phase 2 consisting of 40 lots. The total for the entire project would be \$757,000 – at today's prices. He then stated this is

strictly for base and surface, no curbing or sidewalks. He added Chad Hubert from Rudolph came up with the numbers, and he thought Bernardin Lochmueller was to also come up with some numbers but he has not heard anything from them yet.

Mayor Tucker questioned again if this price included curbs ?

Comm. Maynard replied no, no curbing or sidewalks, just streets. He added Rudolph has the city street specifications so they would be up to the city codes.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

**Police & Dog Chairwoman Higgins** stated she has no report.

Chief Beloit stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

**Fire Chairwoman Shelton** stated she has no report.

Chief Dixon stated he has no report.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

**Sewer Chairman Fuelling** was not present.

Supt. Givens stated in reference to the bridge east of town, the line has been removed and the county can now continue with the bridge.

Councilman Hoehn asked if the new line is in ?

Supt. Givens replied yes, it was bored under the creek.

Councilman Hoehn stated the Commissioners are now going out for bids on the project.

Mayor Tucker asked if any other departments have figures on the cost of the proposed west side development of Mr. Lawrence ?

Supt. Givens replied he can work something up.

Supt. Gray added he turned his figures in about a month ago.

Mayor Tucker asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated they have the Financial Report before them and any questions could be directed to Clerk-Treasure Sitzman.

Mayor Tucker asked if the Clerk-Treasurer had any Communications for the Council ?

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman replied not at this time.

Mayor Tucker stated they are now ready for the Legal portion of the Agenda.

Attorney Higgins stated the first item is the second reading of a new dilapidated building ordinance. She continued by stating the ordinance adds some international building codes for commercial property as well as some generic general conditions that Bldg. Comm. Willis wanted added to make her job easier. She stated the Board of Works today held a public hearing on a schedule of performance bonds and there were no remonstrators and as a result, the schedule was adopted. She concluded by stating she has received no comments.

Councilman Curtis stated he has received several comments, all positive only. He then moved the Ordinance Adopting a Policy Concerning Vacant Structures and Adopting Standards for the Maintenance of Buildings pass on second reading. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn.

Mayor Tucker stated he has talked with about 75 people on this and all of the comments he has heard have been very positive. He then was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Shelton – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Curtis moved the rules be suspended. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Shelton – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Curtis moved the ordinance pass on third reading. Seconded by Councilman Hoehn.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Shelton – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-3.

Mr. Walden stated the County Commissioners are all for this ordinance too.

Attorney Higgins stated the next item is a Resolution to transfer in the Park & Recreation Department, brought to the Clerk-Treasurer from the Park & Recreation Board. She added they are requesting to move money from the 300 category to the 100 category.

Councilwoman Higgins asked if this involved any new money ?

Attorney Higgins replied no, just moving existing money from one place to another.

Councilman Hoehn moved the Resolution be approved. Seconded by Councilwoman Shelton.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any discussion ?

There was none.

Mayor Tucker requested a roll call vote.

Roll was called by the Clerk-Treasurer with Council voting as follows:

Shelton – yes; Fuelling – absent; Hoehn – yes;

Curtis – yes; Higgins – yes.

Mayor Tucker stated the motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman added it will be numbered 13-4.

Attorney Higgins stated she has met with Jonathon Weinzapfel and they are doing a map and a timeline, but they are not totally ready yet. Hopefully by the next meeting.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

Brittni Johnson stated she is with the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana of Posey County and the Chamber fully supports the dilapidated house and structures ordinances and property maintenance guidelines. She added the Chamber's primary focus is the downtown and Main Street. Again, the Chamber supports the efforts of the City Council and she would like thank all of them.

Mayor Tucker stated they have a scout in the Audience.

Matthew Woodruff approached and stated he is working towards Eagle Scout status.

Mayor Tucker asked if anyone else in the Audience wished to address the Council ?

Dianna Deen approached and stated she lived in Mt. Vernon until 2005, when they moved to Iowa. She stated the other day she watched a brick fall from a building across the street from where she lives. Something needs to be done. She then stated she sees lots of new traffic in Mt. Vernon's future, possibly by boat. She asked why can't some of the buildings in downtown be condemned?

Councilman Curtis replied this is why they just passed the ordinance that they did tonight.

Ms. Deen stated she put together a restaurant guide in Evansville a few years back and she would like to put together a building guide for Mt. Vernon to bring attention to the problem. Anyway, she added, she sees Mt. Vernon as beautiful, not fancy or expensive. She wondered why windows couldn't be put back in some of these buildings. She then stated she was asked to come back here and help with this building situation and it can be done – by the end of the year. She concluded by stating she has even worked for Habitat and thanked the Council for being here and added that she is in love with this town.

Mr. Walden stated they are all on same page here – everyone in this room loves this town.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any Old Business or an update on the west side development?

Councilman Hoehn replied not that he is aware of.

Mayor Tucker asked if there was any New Business?

Councilman Hoehn stated he has a proposed change concerning the minutes and agendas. He wondered if they couldn't be distributed by email, making that a documented acceptable way to receive their information. He stated this would save paper, time and money.

Clerk-Treasurer Sitzman agreed.

Attorney Higgins stated she will check any ordinances to see if this is addressed and if not, they can begin to receive them via email.

Mayor Tucker stated they will now hear the reports of the Districts.

**1<sup>st</sup> District Councilwoman Shelton** stated she has no report.

**2<sup>nd</sup> District Councilman Fuelling** was not present. Mayor Tucker stated he could use some prayers as he has pneumonia.

**3<sup>rd</sup> District Councilman Hoehn** stated there was a good fire at the co-op. It was put out and he appreciates all of the efforts of the fire department for keeping it from being an even bigger problem. He added Jim Swinney is also back in town.

**4<sup>th</sup> District Councilman Curtis** stated he has no report.

**Councilwoman-at-Large Higgins** stated she has no report.

Mayor Tucker stated with the help of Attorney Higgins; Sherry Willis; Deb Bennett Stearsman; Judy Dicus Thomann; Mel Levin; and Brittaney Johnson, they have applied for another Stellar grant in the amount of \$6.7M that would be used for the downtown area. He thanked them all for their hard work, and late hours.

Mayor Tucker stated they almost forgot Mr. Parsley with Best Equipment.

Mr. Parsley stated Best Equipment, based in Indianapolis, has been doing business with the City of Mt. Vernon for over 20 years. He is present to talk about garbage totes. One advantage totes is safety: safer for the residents to haul to the street and safer for the operators on the truck as they are no longer touching or lifting the trash, which can lower workers compensation claims. He added the city takes about eight tons of trash to the landfill and all of that is manually put into the trucks by the workers. He stated

Evansville containerizes their trash and the residential monthly bill has gone from \$12.00 a month to \$8.00 a month. That savings can open other avenues for the city.

Mr. Parsley then stated cleanliness of the town is also an advantage. Animals in the trash are currently a problem, especially crows, and that would also go away. He stated the amount of water in the trash currently goes to the landfill and contributes to the city's landfill charges. Trash is heavier when it's wet. He stated there are lots of advantages to the totes, but there is also the expense of getting into it. This expense can be spread over seven years in a lease/purchase of the totes, of which are also under warranty. He added it would take about a week to implement this in the city.

Councilwoman Higgins stated education is the key – people think the containers are too big to pull down the driveway.

Mr. Parsley agreed and added they have found the best way to educate is town hall meetings, though they have done cable TV spots as well.

Councilwoman Higgins asked if the alleys are too narrow for this ?

Mr. Parsley replied they would continue to use their existing trucks, fitted with a hydraulic lift. He then asked if there were any questions ?

There were none.

Mayor Tucker stated if there was no further business, he entertains a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Hoehn moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Councilwoman Shelton.

Mayor Tucker stated all those in favor of the motion should signify in the affirmative; and following the vote, he reported the motion carried unanimously and adjourned the meeting.

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John Tucker  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cristi L. Sitzman  
Clerk-Treasurer